

## Christmas Mail for Men in France

Special Ship Carrying 20,000  
Sacks Comes Into  
Port.

(By Associated Press.)  
A FRENCH PORT, December 20.—A special ship, carrying 20,000 sacks of Christmas mail for the American troops, arrived to-day. The army post-office has fifty special freight cars and an extra heavy detail of men here to handle the mail, which will be rushed to twenty branch post-offices, whence it will be distributed on or before Christmas Day.

Another steamer arrived on Monday with 4,000 sacks of army mail, mostly Christmas presents.

TOYS AND CLOTHING  
FOR CHILDREN OF FRANCE

(By Associated Press.)  
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Tuesday, December 18.—The purchase of thousands of dollars' worth of Christmas toys and clothing for the children of France was begun to-day by the army. One purchase consisted of 200 overcoats for the children of refugees. Everything has been bought from drums to toy rifles and dolls, and all the gifts will be presented on Christmas Day.

One American air squadron will set up a Christmas tree in a hangar for the children of a near-by town. It will be lighted with regulation candles, and there will be a present for every boy and girl. Each child will get the gift most desired, the officers having made a list of the names and written beside each what that particular child wanted.

All over the zone it will be a Christmas long remembered if the Americans can make it such. Some of the towns will have community trees set up in the public squares, while others will have theirs in the city halls.

The presents are being paid for out of the soldiers' own pockets, and one division has raised nearly \$7,000.

For the army there will be football games in the morning and a dinner at midday that will surpass even the one served on Thanksgiving Day.

Thousands of pounds of mince meat, turkey and trimmings have arrived and are awaiting the cooks.

ENCOURAGES CONSTRUCTION  
OF INLAND BARGES AND TUGS

Government to Permit Building of Some  
Wooden Vessels, but No  
Steel Ships.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, December 20.—In a definite statement of policy, the Shipping Board announced to-day that it would not discourage construction of wooden ships for private account, where their building would not interfere with the government program.

Permission will continue to be refused for construction of steel cargo and passenger ships.

In granting permission for private construction of wooden ships, the board will give preference to American owners. Private building of barges and tugs will be encouraged in every way possible.

The statement sets forth: That the board will not encourage construction of steel ships for private account, because of the necessity for devoting all steel building resources to the government's program.

That the board will encourage the construction for American interests of tugs and barges for use on the coasts and on inland waterways.

That the board has no intention of discouraging the construction of wooden ships where their building does not interfere with the government program.

Where permission is given for wooden construction preference will be given to American owners.

The building of new ships generally will not be encouraged.

"The shipbuilding facilities of the country having been largely increased by the board within the last six months," says the announcement, "it will be the policy of the board hereafter to devote itself to the expansion of these new yards and the old yards, rather than to the creation of any further new yards, unless it is found necessary to do so."

Plans for private account have been turned down on the ground that a large amount of private construction would disrupt labor conditions and interfere seriously with the board's flow of materials to yards engaged on government work.

DEATH TOLL IN ARMY CAMPS

Meningitis and Pneumonia (Claim Additional Victims Among Fighting Forces.)

(By Associated Press.)  
MACON, GA., December 20.—The death from meningitis of Private Clarence Tomlin, One Hundred and Twenty-second Infantry, and of Private John B. Hardway, One Hundred and Sixteenth Field Artillery, and Samuel Evans, One Hundred and Twenty-first Infantry, from pneumonia, were announced to-night at Camp Wheeler. The deaths occurred during the last twenty-four hours.

TWO MORE DEATHS  
AT CAMP SHELBY

(By Associated Press.)  
HATTIESBURG, MISS., December 20.—Two deaths announced to-day at the base hospital at Camp Shelby bring the total since December 7 to nineteen.

CAMP BEAUREGARD  
REPORTS THREE DEATHS

(By Associated Press.)  
ALEXANDRIA, LA., December 20.—Three deaths at Camp Beauregard during the twenty-four hours ending at noon to-day were announced to-night, making a total since November 17 of eighteen.

NEW CASES OF MENINGITIS  
AT CAMP JACKSON

(By Associated Press.)  
COLUMBIA, S. C., December 20.—Six new cases of meningitis and another death from that cause were announced to-night at Camp Jackson headquarters, making a total of seventy-one cases and twenty-eight victims reported to date.

On Jewish State in Palestine.  
Rev. Edward N. Calisch, rabbi of Beth Abraham Synagogue, will preach this evening on "If a Jewish State, What Will Be the Relations Between Jews and Non-Jews in Palestine?" Saturday morning Dr. Calisch will preach on "Nobility of Character."

## BABST PREDICTS PLENTY OF SUGAR IN COMING YEAR

President of American Refining  
Company Opposes Placing Limit  
on Domestic Consumption.

WOULD CAUSE TOO BIG SURPLUS

This Year's Shortage Due to Unwarranted Famine Stories and Unprecedented Demand Because of Canning Campaign.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, December 20.—A plentiful supply of sugar for the American people during the coming year was predicted to-day by Earl D. Babst, president of the American Sugar Refining Company, testifying before the Senate investigating committee. He opposed placing a limit on domestic consumption, contending that any such plan would result in a larger surplus than could be shipped abroad.

Half of the world's sugar crop outside of the central powers, Mr. Babst said, is produced in the United States, its territories and Cuba, and if properly distributed this production is more than enough to meet domestic demands and supply all that can be shipped to the allies.

Of this year's shortage, Mr. Babst said it had its inception in unwarranted famine stories, which resulted in hoarding, aggravated by a series of unavoidable conditions ever since. When people began to hoard, the refineries held large stocks, but soon these were materially reduced because of strikes fomented by the Industrial Workers of the World. Then came an unprecedented demand, he said, because of the food administration's canning campaign. The pinch came when England took 200,000 tons of the Cuban crop, which normally comes to this country, and when the late beet crop came on, the railroads were unable to transport it East.

ROLPH ANSWERS CRITICS  
OF FOOD ADMINISTRATION

George M. Rolph, director of the food administration's sugar bureau, followed Mr. Babst. He answered critics of the food administration, who maintain that the price of 7.25 cents a pound set for beet sugar was too high, by saying that had not the price been set sugar prices now would be 20 or 25 cents a pound where available. The beet sugar growers wanted much more, he asserted.

Chairman Reed wanted to know if coercion was not used in making the agreement, or whether refiners were threatened with refusal of licenses if they did not agree. The witness maintained that the agreement was voluntary, and pointed out that three refineries not entering into it were running now on licenses.

Mr. Rolph said the beet price was arranged in an effort to stop the mounting price of cane sugar, particularly in the East. Chairman Reed suggested that some companies were making enormous profits, to which Mr. Rolph answered that those not making huge profits were considered also in an attempt to arrive at a price fair to all. A committee of beet sugar growers had been promised a hearing to-morrow. Food Administrator Hoover probably will be heard late to-morrow or Saturday.

WANTS HOLIDAYS EXTENDED

Governor of South Carolina Urges  
Colleges to Lengthen Vacation  
Period to Save Coal.

COLUMBIA, S. C., December 20.—Governor Manning issued a statement to-day to the trustees of colleges and schools in the State calling upon them to extend their vacation period during the holidays two weeks in an effort to conserve the small supply of fuel on hand. He advised that such time lost be made up in the summer. The chief executive also urged the holding of community meetings at which the people would be requested to pledge themselves to the use of a minimum number of fire places.

President W. M. Riggs, of Clemson College, after a conference here to-day with Alan Johnston, president of the board of trustees, and Governor Manning, announced that the Christmas holidays for students of the institution would be extended two weeks longer than usual, due to the coal shortage. All time lost will be made up in the summer, it was stated. It is estimated that this action will result in a saving of approximately 200 tons of coal.

THREE EFFICIENT  
MEDICINES

Hood's Sarsaparilla, superlative blood purifier and appetizer, originated in a Boston physician's successful prescription.

Pepsin, superlative iron tonic, for anemia, nervousness, made from iron, pepsin, milk, celery, etc.

Hood's Pills, superlative family cathartic, for liver, constipation.

The superlative combination that gives superlative health.

Practically everybody needs at least one of these medicines.

But, if your blood is scrofulous, if you are also anemic or nervous, if you are constipated besides—thousands have all these ailments.

You need all three medicines.

Ask your druggist for them to-day.

Ad.

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It Costs No More To Send A Corsage of Guaranteed Freshness

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Richmond's Largest Showing of New Military Boots

the January and February Styles

Call at once. Large stock of all models for Xmas delivery. Easy terms.

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as a rule, are busy men. Many of Richmond's leading professional men do their banking here. They have found our location very convenient in the heart of the shopping district.

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The Strongest Trust Co. in the South Atlantic States.  
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Twenty-Five Cents

is all you need have to begin purchasing a WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATE, bearing 4% interest.

Come to our bank, purchase a 25c THRIFT STAMP and ask for a THRIFT CARD containing spaces for sixteen 25c THRIFT STAMPS.

When your card has been filled it will be redeemed for a WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATE bearing interest at 4%.

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## Hun Sympathizer Hits Billy Sunday

Cries of "Lynch Him!" Ring  
Through Tabernacle Follow-  
ing Attack on Evangelist.

ATLANTA, GA., December 20.—Wild scenes attended the revival meeting being conducted here to-night by Billy Sunday, the evangelist. Billy engaged in a fist fight with a German sympathizer, and had the better of the argument when the crowd separated them.

The evangelist was making a vigorous attack on Germany and her allies, saying he could not believe "God would be on the side of a dirty bunch that would stand aside and see a Turk outrage a woman."

In the midst of his sermon he was interrupted with cries of "Look out!" as W. H. Beutervauth, a carpenter, forced his way to the platform. Sunday turned and swung at the intruder. Beutervauth sent a glancing blow on the evangelist's face. Sunday sent a hard wallop to the chest.

Wild confusion followed. The German was roughly handled. In the tumult Mayor Candler was choked, but not badly hurt.

There were cries of "Lynch him!" from all parts of the tabernacle. The police forced their way to Beutervauth's side and took him to the police station. He refused to talk.

RICHMONDER AT ANNISTON  
ON ROAD TO RECOVERY

Private Simon Lawrence Suffers Only  
Minor Injury in Recent Auto  
Accident.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
ANNISTON, ALA., December 20.—Inquiry at the Twenty-ninth Division Base Hospital, at Camp McClellan, to-night indicated that all six soldiers hurt in the automobile accident on the Jacksonville Pike late Monday night are well on the road to recovery. Private Robert F. Byemer, of Washington, was the most seriously injured, and for a time his recovery was doubtful. Others suffering from minor hurts are Privates Simon Lawrence, One Hundred and Fourth Ammunition Train, of Richmond; Floyd A. Edwards, Buddie H. Ashworth and Daniel R. Halloway, One Hundred and Sixteenth Infantry, Virginia Unit, and Herbert Patten, One Hundred and Fifteenth Infantry, Maryland unit.

A trainload of equipment for the battery of Virginia Field Artillery, which arrived in Anniston Monday, under the command of Captain N. A. Johnson, was delivered at the battery headquarters Tuesday morning, consisting of a total of twenty-two cars, ten cars of horses, four cars of wagons and five boxcars of harness and other equipment used in the field artillery branch of the service.

The train was accompanied by sixty men of the battery, and they came direct from Chickamauga Park, near Chattanooga, where they have been in camp for several months.

The body of Corporal Carl W. Dudley, a member of Company A, One Hundred and Sixteenth Infantry, whose death occurred at the base hospital Saturday night, was shipped to his former home at Staunton, Va., on Sunday night.

BRITISH CASUALTIES

For Week Ending Tuesday, Reach  
Total of 17,976 Officers and  
Men.

(By Associated Press.)  
LONDON, Tuesday, December 11.—British casualties reported in the week ending to-day totalled 17,976 officers and men, as follows:

Officers killed or died of wounds, 331; men, 3,181.

Officers wounded or missing, 1,639; men, 13,425.

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## HURLEY FIRST WITNESS IN SENATE SHIP PROBE

He Is Called On for Itemized Statement  
Concerning Operations of  
Fleet Corporation.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, December 20.—Investigation of the government Shipping Board and Emergency Fleet Corporation's operations under the resolution of Senator Harding, which the Senate adopted, the Senate Commerce Committee decided to-day, will begin to-morrow afternoon with Chairman Hurley as the first witness.

Other witnesses will be Vice-Chairman Stevens, and John A. Donald, of the board. By resolution at its meeting to-day the committee called on Chairman Hurley for the following information:

An itemized statement of all contracts for both steel and wood ships, with the full name of each contracting person, firm or corporation, when organized, and when in operation, and the place where the shipbuilding under each contract has been or is being carried on.

The number of ships constructed, where and by whom now under construction, where and by whom the proportion of work done.

Copies of all shipbuilding contracts. What ships are being built in private yards for other than government account, and by whom.

SCOTT BACK FROM EUROPE

To Be Assigned as Chief Instructor  
Of New National  
Army.

(By Associated Press.)  
AN ATLANTIC PORT, December 20.—Major-General Hugh L. Scott, U. S. A., who is to be assigned as chief instructor officer of the new National Army, returned to-day from Europe on an American steamship. He has been at the front in France studying conditions there. A number of United States Army officers arrived here with him.

The naval gunners of the vessel on which General Scott returned fired at what appeared to be a submarine periscope the day after leaving port and scored a hit which is believed to have sunk the German boat, according to passengers.

All the how guns were manned when the object thought to be a periscope was sighted. The vessel headed straight toward the object and several shots were fired. One struck at the point where the periscope was moving, and a huge volume of water arose. The liner then resumed her voyage.

MISS CLEVELAND TO WED

Daughter of Former President En-  
gaged to Captain Bosanquet, of  
Coldstream Guards.

LONDON, December 20.—The engagement is announced of Esther, daughter of Grover Cleveland, to Captain Bosanquet, of the Coldstream Guards. Captain Bosanquet is a son of Sir Albert Bosanquet.

Miss Cleveland came to London in June of last year, after having qualified as a nurse and instructor of the blind, and took up work as a volunteer at St. Dunstan's Home for Blind Soldiers.

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